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heavens, and the eye-piece is brought high above the floor, is overcome by raising the floor by hydraulic rams on the principle employed at the LICK Observatory and first proposed by Sir HOWARD GRUBB. The observer touches an electric button in a key-board by his side and raises or lowers the floor at will.

The clock is wound automatically by electricity. When the weights reach a certain point they switch on an electric current, which is cut off again when they are wound up. The ease in handling the telescope is increased by the devices to reduce friction. The shaft of the polar axis rests on hardened steel ball bearings resembling those in fine bicycles, and at the top it works on a necklace of anti-friction rolls.—Adapted from a paragraph in the *Scientific American*, March 25, 1893.

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE OF APRIL, 1893.

The following telegram was sent to the press on April 18:

LICK OBSERVATORY, April 18, 1893.

"A cipher telegram just received from Prof. SCHAEBERLE, in Chile, informs us that the LICK Observatory expedition to observe the Total Solar Eclipse has been successful in every respect. The mechanical theory of the solar corona proposed by Prof. SCHAEBERLE has been verified. A drawing of the corona of April 16 was published by him in January last as a prediction of what this corona was to be like; and I understand his telegram to mean that the picture made by him months ago was a true representation of the actual corona visible at the eclipse. This is an important verification of a very far-reaching theory. The extension of the solar corona was first photographed at the California eclipse of January 1, 1889, and was fully described in the LICK Observatory report of that eclipse.

Its existence was doubted by various European astronomers, and the cloudy weather did not allow it to be plainly photographed at the eclipse of December, 1889. Now, however, Prof. SCHAEBERLE telegraphs that it has been again successfully photographed at his station high up in the mountains.

Fifty photographs have been secured by Prof. SCHAEBERLE and his assistants, using three different telescopes. One of these instruments gives an image of the Sun over four inches in diameter, and the corona covers a plate 18 by 22 inches. The whole programme was satisfactorily carried out.

It is only proper to add that the expenses of the LICK Observatory expedition were generously provided for by a gift from Mrs. Senator HEARST of California, to whom science owes a new debt."

EDWARD S. HOLDEN.